



ARRL Midwest Division Newsletter April 2018



2018 ARRL Midwest Division Convention – Update

By Tim Busch, NØCKR, Convention Chairman

Last month I introduced you to the upcoming 2018 ARRL Midwest Division Convention, to be held August 4th & 5th, 2018 at the Linn County Iowa Fairgrounds in Central City, just north of Cedar Rapids, Iowa. The Convention Committee has been meeting regularly and is pulling together not just amateur radio organizations, but also STEM organizations to make this a new and different convention for all involved. We have a lot to do, and a short time to do it, but we're working hard and are determined to have a great convention.

The Collins Collector's Association (CCA) is going all-out, having a dinner Friday, tours of Collins Radio, and a Collins station on the convention grounds.

To that end, we need your help. Interested in doing a forum talk? How about a demonstration of your favorite amateur radio or STEM-related activity? How about a build project for adults and/or kids? Want to hold a meet-up with your favorite organization? This is the time! Your club could host an entire area or forum room. **Please drop me at email at NØCKR@ARRL.net and I will work you into the convention schedule.**

Forum & Demonstration Ideas (definitely not limitations):

Satellite, Contesting, DX, Digital Modes, SDR Radios, 3D Printing, APRS, Remote Control, Prepping, Alternate Energy, Robotics, Rocketry, Balloons, Radio Control & Drones, Mobile/Bicycle Operation, Electric Cars & Aircraft, Fox Hunting,

Possible Organizational Meetings (Again, just suggestions. Need someone to take the lead.):

Makers, AMSAT/TAPR, ARES, QCWA, Repeater Councils, MARS, Scouts, 4-H, etc.
ARRL is covered, thanks Rod!

Possible Build Projects (led by Dave, NM0S):

Learn to Solder, Learn CW, Antenna Projects, QRP Build, "Make it, Take it".

The convention website, www.ARRLMidwestConvention.org, is just in its infancy, but will be growing quickly over the next month or two. Stay tuned!

73 de Tim, NØCKR
NØCKR@ARRL.net



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2018 ARRL Midwest Convention The First Annual Midwest STEM TechFest

August 4 & 5, 2018

Cedar Rapids, Iowa

Hosted by the

Cedar Valley Amateur Radio Club

In Cooperation with

The American Radio Relay League (ARRL), Iowa STEM,
Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE),
Makers, Radio Control Clubs, Drone, Rocket & Balloon Clubs,
Boy/Girl/Venture Scouts and 4-H Clubs,

Rockwell Collins Amateur Radio Club, Eastern Iowa DX Association, Amateur Radio Satellite
Corporation (AMSAT),

Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES), Quarter Century Wireless Association (QCWA),
Collins Collectors Association, and
Midwest Amateur Radio Clubs!



Many Door Prizes! Fun for the whole family!

FEATURING

39 Acre Show Site

6+ Acre Free Parking

Camping On-Site

Indoor & Outdoor Flea Markets

Live Demonstrations

Amateur Radio Exams

Build Projects

Commercial Vendors

Forum Speakers

Organization Meet-Ups

Numerous activities

Saturday Evening Banquet & "Secret" Wouff Hong Ceremony

Keynote Speaker: ARRL President Rick Roderick, K5UR

Save the Date!

August 4 & 5, 2018

Convention Chairman: Tim Busch, NOCKR@ARRL.net

www.ARRLMidwestConvention.org

Info@ARRLMidwestConvention.org



A Photo Sample of the Nebraska State Convention

by Joe Eisenberg, K0NEB



Matt Anderson, KA0BOJ
Nebraska Section Manager



QCWA Iowa Chapter Luncheon

by Bob McCaffrey, K0CY

Recently this past month the Iowa Chapter of the QCWA held a luncheon in Ames.



John W0KL and Bob K0CY listen intently to a lecture on grounding from Dale WA9ENA



The group from left to right includes Dale WA9ENA, Wes K0GXI, Margot KB0MPL, Clay W0FGS, Evelyn XYL of Bernie, Bernie KB0L, Larry K0EDO, John W0KL, Bob K0CY



Who?

by Richard Johnson, K0RCH

The Hoot Owls are back. 3 AM in the morning, they are in the tree outside my bedroom window going "Whoooo Whoooo". And I respond, "I hope you soon find out and shut up!!"

Which leads to our topic: Proper identification.

Being in a unique position in McPherson, with antennas up at about 60 feet, I can hear a load of nets; HF, VHF, UHF, etc. And there seems to be a misconception of what is proper identification. Note: I am not picking on anyone, nor any organization. This is in general.

I listened to a net the other night, and the net control checked in with their call, and the next call sign I heard from the individual was 52 minutes later. So much for every 10 minutes. I would encourage every net control op to find a way to delineate 10 minutes. Me? I have a clock on my computer, where I also have the net script up, and I say "On the hour, k0rcj. On the 10, k0rcj. On the 20, k0rcj." Some depend on hearing the repeater doing its report. Sometimes you are talking when it goes off, and you miss it.

Which segways into this: It is spring. Time for walkathons, bike races and rides, pub crawls, donut crawls, et al. This brings into question Tactical Call Signs and their usage.

Tac Calls: Sag one, Sag two, Net Control. Guess what? They don't replace your FCC assigned call sign. Imagine that. It is still required, after ten minutes or at the end of each conversation, to ID with your FCC assigned call sign. Net Control, Sag one, don't cut it. I have heard during storms ID's consisting of "EC". That's it. 45 minutes of "EC" after being contacted. Not good. That is not an FCC assigned call. Sorry.

Which leads us to 1X1 calls and use of Club calls. Different horse here. When under the auspices of a club call (think Field Day or Special Event) or a 1X1 call for a special event, the rule changes a bit. You still must obey the ID rule using the 1X1 or club call. BUT, then, once each hour or so, you must also say something like "(Your call) operating as blah blah" where your call sign is inserted there.

We all know, in the heat of the moment, and excitement, how easy it is to fall prey to this. Just pay a little more attention, and it will eventually come naturally. The above also applies to general conversations, which can become long and convoluted.

Hope it helps. Need further discussion/clarification? Email me at k0rcj@yahoo.com. We can do email, or through email set up a time for a phone call or eyeball to eyeball conversation.



Club Meeting Program Idea

by Kent Trimble, K9ZTV

Kent Trimble, K9ZTV, and Bill Gerth, W4RK, were asked to present programs on Amateur Radio to two different Jefferson City, Missouri, Rotary clubs in recent months. During the allotted thirty minutes, the 2003 Walter Cronkite DVD entitled "Amateur Radio Today" was shown. This was followed by a brief overview of ham operations in Jefferson City that included a biographical sketch of the state capital's first known licensee, Willis Porter Corwin, 9ABD, who, as a teenager, was significantly involved in the historic 1917 "First Transcontinental Relay of Formal Message Traffic" as documented in Clinton B. DeSoto's 1936 classic, "Two Hundred Meters & Down" (a book which should be in every ham's library and is still available from ARRL at <https://www.arrl.org/shop/200-Meters-and-Down/> for \$15.95).

Although produced fifteen years ago, the Cronkite video is still highly relevant, excellently produced, and generates interested questions from the audience.

73,

Kent Trimble, K9ZTV

Jefferson City, Missouri



Iowa Section ARES Meeting Held in Waterloo April 10, 2017



Clint K0GR, Paul W0YR, and Rich WW0Q making a presentation



The Iowa Section ARES Meeting Audience



ARRL Midwest Division Membership Statistics

Rod Blocksome, K0DAS

Membership continues to decline in the division as well as other divisions. Below are the numbers for the past year as of the end of February. As you can see we are lagging the overall ARRL percentage. Let's all make an effort to reverse this trend in the coming months. Vice-Director Zyguelbaum and I will be attending many of the hamfests in the division over the coming months. Stop by and visit and perhaps introduce a new ham to ARRL. We are continuing to offer a free ARRL book with a new or renewed membership application taken at the hamfests.

Section	A/O Feb. 2018	A/O Feb. 2017	1 Year Change
Kansas	1,477	1,543	- 4.3%
Iowa	1,500	1,561	- 3.9%
Missouri	2,825	2,915	- 3.1%
Nebraska	820	857	- 4.3%
Midwest TOTAL	6,623	6,877	- 3.7%
ARRL TOTAL	158,596	162,802	- 2.6%

6 Meters in the Midwest

by Jon Jones, N0JK

There was remarkable propagation on both 6 and 10 meters March 28, despite a SFI of only 68. That afternoon, 6 meters opened between North America and CE, LU.

Ken, AC4TO, in Florida worked CE4WJK and CE2SV. I copied one decode on CE2SV.

CE2SV 18/03/23 2242Z 50313.0 EM28 F2 FF47 CQ FT8 one decode N0JK
CE2SV 18/03/23 2212Z 50313.0 ft8 LU4FPZ
CE2SV 18/03/23 2203Z 50102.0 579 in EM70 Thanks! AC4TO

I saw a spot by K0TPP for CE2SV on 50.313 MHz. As noted, I copied one decode from CE2SV about 2240z. It was probably afternoon TEP for AC4TO, possibly an Es link from the Midwest to TEP. The geomagnetic field was active with the Kp to 4.



Midwest Division ARRL Hamfests & Conventions

04/06/2018 | OzarkCon QRP Conference

Location: Branson, MO

Type: ARRL Convention

Sponsor: Four State QRP Group

Website: <http://www.ozarkcon.com/index.php>

04/07/2018 | Spring Cleanup 2018

Location: Bellevue, NE

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Bellevue Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://www.bellevuearc.org/>

04/21/2018 | Ararat Shrine ARC Hambash 2018

Location: Kansas City, MO

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Ararat Shrine Amateur Radio Club (WAØNQA)

Website: <http://www.hambash.com>

04/21/2018 | DMRAA Hamfest

Location: Des Moines, IA

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Des Moines Radio Amateurs Association

Website: <http://www.dmraa.com/hamfest>

04/28/2018 | 3rd Annual Greater Midwest Radio Show

Location: Hastings, NE

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Amateur Radio Association of Nebraska

Website: <http://greatermidwestradio.org/>

04/28/2018 | Heartland Hams Hamfest

Location: Glenwood, IA

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Heartland Hams Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://heartlandhams.org>



05/12/2018 | Hamboree 2018

Location: Boone, IA

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: 3900 Club

Website: <http://3900club.com>

06/09/2018 | SWIARA Swapmeet

Location: Creston, IA

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: South West Iowa Amateur Radio Association

Website: <http://www.swiara.com/home.html>

07/28/2018 | 57th Annual Victoria Springs Ham Fest & Steak Fry

Location: Anselmo, NE

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Central Nebraska Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://cnarc.club>

08/04/2018 | Midwest Division Convention

Location: Linn County Fair Grounds at Central City, IA

Type: ARRL Convention

Sponsor: Cedar Valley Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://www.w0gg.org>

08/12/2018 | SCARC Hamfest

Location: O'Fallon, MO

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: St. Charles Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://www.wb0hsi.org>

08/19/2018 | Kansas State Convention

Location: Salina, KS

Type: ARRL Convention

Sponsor: Central Kansas Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://www.w0cy.org/>

08/24/2018 | 29th Annual Joplin Hamfest

Location: Joplin, MO

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Joplin Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://joplinhamfest.org>



Midwest Division Special Event Stations

04/21/2018 | SE Kansas Mining Special Event Series 2 of 7

Apr 21-Apr 23, 1500Z-2300Z, K0SEK, Pittsburg, KS. Southeast Kansas Amateur Radio Club. 7.242 14.140 14.250. Certificate & QSL. K0SEK Attn CHANCEY #SASE, 409 W Quincy ST, Pittsburg, KS 66762. Crawford County Historical Museum is the 2nd of 7 Special Events recognizing the mining history in SE Kansas !! See website for details including QSL and Certificate info.

www.sekarc.net/p/sek-mining.html

04/21/2018 | Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve Junior Ranger Day

Apr 21, 1400Z-1700Z, KS0KS, Strong City, KS. Santa Fe Trail Amateur Radio Club. 18.145 14.280 10.118 7.245. QSL. SFTARC, P.O. Box 3144, Olathe, KS 66063. www.sftarc.org

05/19/2018 | William Becknell Santa Fe Trail Heritage Days Special Event -- Founder of the Santa Fe Trail

May 19-May 20, 1400Z-2200Z, WB0SFT, Overland Park, KS. William Becknell Santa Fe Trail Heritage Days. 21.365 14.265 7.265 3.865 1.830; SSB CW FT8. Certificate & QSL. Please see website for information, on how to receive your certificate or QSL, and for updated information, Overland Park, KS 66204. Certificate and QSL available via website after the event. www.wb0sft.org

Midwest Division News and Photos Wanted!

If you have news and photos about events or activities from the Midwest Division, email them to Director Rod Blocksom K0DAS at rod.blocksom@gmail.com. I will try to include as many as possible in upcoming editions of the Midwest Division News.

Thanks and 73, Rod, K0DAS

ARRL Midwest Division Leadership



Director: Rod Blocksome K0DAS

k0das@arrl.org 319-393-8022

Vice Director: Art Zygielbaum K0AIZ

k0aiz@arrl.org 402-421-0839

Iowa Section Manager: Bob McCaffrey, K0CY

Kansas Section Manager: Ron Cowan, KB0DTI

Missouri Section Manager: Cecil Higgins, AC0HA

Nebraska Section Manager: Matt Anderson, KA0BOJ

DX Advisory Committee: John Yodis, K2VV (MO)

Emergency Communications Advisory Committee: Reynolds Davis, K0GND (NE)

Contest Advisory Committee: Glenn Johnson, W0GJ (IA)

Midwest Division Volunteer Counsel: Craig Long, K0CSL (IA)

Division Legislative Action Chair: Mike Edwards, WB9M (MO)

Legislative Action Coordinators: Nick Critelli, K0PCG (IA); Bruce Frahm, K0BJ (KS & NE); Mike Edwards, WB9M (MO).

Assistant Directors (Missouri): Paul Haefner K0JPL, Dave Propper K2DP, Kent Trimble K9ZTV, Roger Volk K0GOB, Cecil Higgins AC0HA, John Frederick N8GOU, Eric Zust W0TT, Randy Schulze KD0HKD, and Ron Lowrance, K4SX.

Assistant Directors (Kansas): Mike Albers K0FJ, Jim Andera K0NK, Bill Henderson K0VBU, Charlie Hett K0THN, Brian Short KC0BS, Richard Johnson K0RCJ, Rick Tucker W0RT, and Jon Jones N0JK.

Assistant Directors (Iowa): Tim Busch N0CKR, C.W. Pantel K0IIR, and Jim Spencer W0SR

Assistant Directors (Nebraska): Reynolds Davis K0GND, Joe Eisenberg K0NEB, Allen Harpham WD0DXD, and Todd LeMense KK0DX.

Midwest Division Webmaster: Steve Schmitz W0SJS email: w0sjs@arrl.net

Midwest Division's website: <http://www.arrlmidwest.org/>